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To prevent a lampwick from smoking it in vinegar, and well dry it before it is ready for use.

—Those who suffer from a sensitive skin, subject to frequent irritation and dryness, should never use hard water for their ablutions. Boiled water will be proved beneficial for delicate complexions.

—Into a solution of gum arabic, stirred of Paris until the mixture assumes the consistency of cream; apply with a brush to the broken edges of the skin and join together. In three days the skin can not be broken in the same place.

—Buttermilk Muffins.—Beat hard two eggs into a quart of buttermilk, and add in flour to make a thick batter (about one quart) stir in a teaspoonful salt, add the same of soda; bake in a hot oven in well greased tins. Pull out with the fingers and butter.

—A little bag for holding a shoe button, needles and thread is a very useful addition to the dressing-table and is quite ornamental. Shoe buttons snap off at the most inopportune times, and to have new ones always at hand for the necessary articles with which to fasten them is a convenience to be prized by many a busy mother.

—Raspberry Short Cake.—Take one cup of buttermilk, one teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of salt, two-thirds of a cup of butter, mix as soft as you can be worked, make four layers, spreading each with butter as you put them on top of each other. Bake in a moderate oven. When done and cool, spread the berries which have been well sweetened between the layers and sprinkle white sugar over the top.

—A small pan of burning charcoal in a safe place in the cellar will in a short time remove all odors of vegetables, unless it be too bad, when all the vegetables around should make haste to remove the cause the vegetables themselves. This is a part of the house which should be carefully looked after, and it is more likely to be here, and in the wastepipes leading from the house, where the germs of disease lurk in ambush, often to literally take us by the throat while we sleep. If we do not take warning in season.

—Constant coughing is precisely like catching a wound on the outside of the body; so long as it is done the wound will not heal. Let a person, when tempted to cough, draw a long breath and hold it until it warms and throbs every air cell, and some benefit will soon be received from the process. Nitrogen, which is thus refined, acts as an anodyne to the irritated mucous membrane, allaying the desire to cough and healing the throat and lungs in the process. At the same time a reliable medicine will aid nature in her efforts to recuperate.—Baltimore News.

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**DRESS AND FASHIONS.**

—The Latest Fancies in Wraps, Tea Gowns, Corsets and Jewelry.

—Stripes are very stylish just now, especially for wraps.

—Leaves to most evening gowns are now and reach almost to the elbow.

—Artisan stockings in either wool or cotton are among the threats of the coming season.

—The latest fancy in jewels is to tie a necklace with a bow of ribbon in the center of a clasp.

—Jadower in its natural light brownish color is the correct fur to wear with black or suede suit.

—English hats and bonnets are noticeably low and round. Some of them, however, more than make up in breadth and trim all they have lost in height.

—Crimmer and silver pins fasten the hair in daylight. For evening or full-dress, the stones, feathers, flowers or bouquets of looped ribbons are worn at the retention.

—Laplace grows in favor and fashion. These are brought over for spring wear in all sorts of colors, and striped and brocaded till they quite discount railroad.

—Rain-bow corsets are higher than years. Often they are only half and either V-shaped or pompadour with a filling of lace that comes up to throat.

—The Psyche knot is the correct thing to wear with toque or round hat, and should be accompanied by a pointed collar, waved and frizzed, but not necessarily curled.

—Underwaists of either brocade or embroidered muslin are now worn with low sleeves under half-dress occasions. If sleeves are long, a puff matching underwaist appears at the hand, if short, puff sleeves of muslin or a puff of brocade cover the arm between.

—Tea gowns grow at once more and are favored in and elaborations. They are usually made up in two very stuffs, or else in cashmere of the dress. In cut they combine of the direct and the process with a little of the most all else under the sun, but for all are wonderfully fetching.

—The new fashion of wearing a jewel pendant in the middle of the forehead is about some fifty years old. Queen Victoria and her maids of honor wore it when the good sovereign was young—and at least half the portraits of the "annuals" and "books of beauty" that day show impossibly large pearls and diamonds hanging on beauty's brow.

—Library (N. Y.) Journal.

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**Combinations for Spring.**

—The combination the almost invariable rule of combination has been to associate a brocaded, striped or embroidered fabric with a plain one, but the rule is now very frequently broken. Two embroidered materials are often combined, in a brocade in which the design is worked with threads of gold, copper or silver; the other a plain textile is heavily embroidered with figures outlined in metal like that in the designs. Two sorts of striped goods are intermixed, and sometimes a large and a small check, and a stripe, all in one costume. A model in this was shown, and the arrangement of the three patterns looked far more attractive than they read, as there was a blending of different shades of similar colors, which, as a whole, produced a really artistic effect.—N. Y. L.